

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOGADI 00463 060853 Z

14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /143 W

----- 126488

R 060820 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 689

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0463

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR SO

SUBJ: SOMALI FRENCH RELATIONS

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR TELLS ME (AND ASKS FOR PRESENT IT BE CLOSELY HELD) THAT FOCCART PLANS ARRIVE MOGADISIO APRIL 17 FOR BRIEF VISIT. AMBASSADOR " THINKS" PURPOSE IS PROBABLY TO ARRANGE FOR LATER VISIT TO SOMALIA BY POMPIDOU IN RESPONSE SIAD' S INVITATION EXTENDED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO IN CONNECTION WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT' S VISIT TO ADDIS. AMBASSADOR CONSIDERS THESE DEVELOPMENTS AS GENERALLY FAVORABLE IN CONTEXT SOMALIA' RELATIONS WITH WEST.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SOMWLIS TACITLY FAVOR CONTINUATION OF STATUS QUO AT DJIBOUTI, IT WILL BE INTERESTING SEE HOW THEY PLAY FOCCART VISIT (AND POMPIDOU' S IF IT MATERIALIZES) IN LIGHT THEIR PUBLIC POSTURE URGING INDEPENDENCE FOR FTAI. SOMALIS WILL USE OCCASION TO URGE FRENCH NOT TO TURN OVER DJIBOUTI TO ETHIOPIANS, AND THEY CAN PROBABLY BE EXPECTED TO REQUEST FRENCH GOOD OFFICES IN CURRENT SOMALI- ETHIOPIAN TENSIONS AS WELL POSSIBLY ON WHOLE QUESTION OF TERRITORIAL DISPUTE WITH ETHIOPIA.
LOORAM

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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